

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ORIG : C
UNIT : EE/FI/RE
EXT : 2436
DATE : 28 AUGUST 1954

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TO : STATE, ARMY, NAVY, AIR, NSA, JCS, SECDEF, ONE, CCI

FROM : CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CONF : EE 6

INFO : DD/1, FI, FI/OPS, FI/PLANS, FI/STC, FI/STC 2, FI/RQM 3, PP 3, PP/PRESS,
WE 2, FI/ST 2

U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY
CS PD 043 (OUT 72390)

1636Z 28 AUG 54

ROUTINE
PRECEDENCE

PLACE ACQUIRED : GERMANY, BONN
DATE OF INFO : 26 AUGUST 1954
APPRAISAL OF
CONTENT : 2
SOURCE : WELL PLACED OFFICIAL IN THE BLANK OFFICE (B)
SUBJECT : VIEWS ON GERMAN REARMAMENT

1. FORMER GENERAL HEUSINGER IS NOT UNHAPPY OVER THE OUTCOME OF THE BRUSSELS CONFERENCE BECAUSE IT HAS FINALLY BROUGHT A SHOWDOWN. HE HOPES THAT THE U.S. AND BRITAIN AND THE OTHER EDC COUNTRIES WILL NOT ALLOW THE FRENCH TO REOPEN NEW DISCUSSIONS ON THE BASIS OF CHANGES IN EDC. HE BELIEVES THAT EDC IS A COMPLETELY DEAD ISSUE AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS SUCH.

2. HEUSINGER IS COMPLETELY AGAINST THE SORT OF REMILITARIZATION WHICH WOULD MAKE USE OF AN ENLARGED BORDER POLICE AS THE CADRE FOR FUTURE MILITARY FORCES. HE IS AGAINST ANY CAMOUFLAGED REMILITARIZATION, CLAIMING THAT PAST GERMAN EXPERIENCE HAS PROVEN THAT TRYING TO RAISE AN ARMY THROUGH POLICE GROUPS IS DANGEROUS. HE ALSO BELIEVES IT WILL GIVE THE SOVIETS EVEN MORE REASON TO BE DISTRUSTFUL OF THE WEST. GERMAN REMILITARIZATION MUST THEREFORE BE OVERT AND HONEST.

3. A LARGE SEGMENT OF THE BLANK OFFICE BELIEVES THAT A FIVE-NATION EDC IS FEASIBLE AND WOULD BE THE BEST SOLUTION BECAUSE IT WOULD NOT NECESSITATE NEW RATIFICATION PROCEDURES (SEE PARAGRAPH 2, PD-019). HEUSINGER IS NOT TOO FAVORABLE DISPOSED TOWARD THIS PLAN BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY OF STATIONING TROOPS IN THE FRENCH ZONE AND THE POSSIBLE EMBARRASSMENT TO U.S. FORCES STATIONED IN FRANCE. CERTAIN BLANK OFFICE OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT HEUSINGER'S OBJECTIONS WOULD AUTOMATICALLY BE RESOLVED WHEN GERMANY OBTAINS SOVEREIGNTY.

4. HEUSINGER FEELS THAT THE TENTATIVE ALTERNATE PLAN FOR A SEVEN-NATION MILITARY PACT WHICH WOULD INCLUDE GREAT BRITAIN IS A STEP

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IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. HOWEVER, HE QUESTIONS BRITISH WILLINGNESS TO ENTER SUCH AN AGREEMENT IN VIEW OF THEIR PAST RELUCTANCE TO JOIN SUPRA-NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. HEUSINGER IS HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS OF THE MOTIVES OF MENDES-FRANCE AND DOUBTS THAT THE FRENCH WOULD PERMIT UNRESTRICTED GERMAN PARTICIPATION IN SUCH AN ORGANIZATION.

5. HEUSINGER VOICED THE BELIEF THAT THE BEST SOLUTION UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS WOULD BE SOME FORM OF A NATIONAL ARMY UNDER NATO. HE CLAIMED THAT THE FEAR OF A NATIONAL ARMY BECOMING A POLITICAL INSTRUMENT AND OF THE MILITARISTS GAINING THE ASCENDANCY OVER THE POLITICIANS IN THE GOVERNMENT IS A FALLACY. THE POST-WAR GOVERNMENT IN GERMANY WOULD HAVE TIGHT PARLIAMENTARY CONTROLS ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES AND THIS TOGETHER WITH THE INCREASING POWERFUL ROLE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC OPINION COULD KEEP THE POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS OF THE MILITARISTS IN CHECK.

6. HEUSINGER, LIKE OTHER BONN POLITICIANS, HAS AN UNEASY FEELING ABOUT THE RELIABILITY OF THE WEST GERMAN INTELLECTUAL YOUTH. BECAUSE OF THIS, HE FEELS THAT IT IS HIGH TIME TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A MILITARY PROPAGANDA SECTION (WEHRPROPAGANDA) FOR PROPERLY INDOCTRINATING THE 20-25 YEAR-OLD AGE GROUP. HE STATED THAT HE WILL RELY MAINLY ON THE SONS OF FARMERS AND WORKERS FOR A RELIABLE AND USEABLE ENLISTED MEN'S CORPS IN THE NEW GERMAN ARMY.

7. HEUSINGER DESIRES THE MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION BY THE OPPOSITION PARTY IN THE SUPERVISION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GERMAN ARMY.

8. THE FORMATION OF THE OFFICERS' SELECTION BOARD FOR HIGHER RANKING OFFICERS HAS NOW BEEN COMPLETED. FIFTY PERCENT OF ITS MEMBERS CONSIST OF CIVILIANS AND THE OTHER FIFTY PERCENT OF FORMER MILITARY MEN. EACH POLITICAL PARTY WAS ALLOWED TO PROPOSE CANDIDATES ON A PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATIONAL BASIS.

9. AFTER THE BRUSSELS CONFERENCE, HEUSINGER CALLED 200 MEMBERS OF HIS OFFICE TOGETHER AND BRIEFED THEM ON THE SITUATION. HE RESTATED TO THEM HIS DESIRE AND THE NECESSITY FOR CONTINUED CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE WESTERN POWERS AND HIS BELIEF THAT A

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SOLUTION WILL SOON BE FOUND. HE WARNED HIS MEN VERY SHARPLY AGAINST MAKING ANY POLITICAL STATEMENTS AND AGAINST CRITICISM OF THE FRENCH. HE OFFERED TO LET ANY MAN RESIGN WITH HONOR IF HE IS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH THE PRESENT POLICY.

FIELD DISTRIBUTION: NONE
FORMAL DISSEMINATION FOLLOWS IN CS-45524 (END OF MESSAGE)

THE ABOVE INFO BASED ON BONN 1976 (IN 40412)

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